

1/26/78

TELEGRAM

INDICATE
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E.O. 11652:
TAGS:
SUBJECT:
ACTION:
INFO:

FROM
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

BB 42

GDS
SHUM, AR
MULTILATERAL HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVE--
DISCUSSIONS WITH E-9 AND SWEDISH AMBASSADORS
SECSTATE WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
☒ Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s):
Declassify: () In Part ☒ In Full
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

AMB
DCM
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ECON
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RF
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1977
REF: / STATE 310212 (NOTAL)

1. SINCE RECEIPT OF REFTEL AMBASSADOR HAS SOUNDED
OUT THE AMBASSADORS OF DENMARK, FEDERAL REPUBLIC
OF GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS, FRANCE AND ITALY ON
PROSPECTS FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S MOVING
TOWARD SOME KIND OF MULTILATERAL DEMARCHE RELATING
TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN ARGENTINA. AMBASSADOR ALSO DISCUSSED
POSSIBLE SWEDISH DEMARCHE WHEN HE SAW THAT AMBASSADOR
DECEMBER 14.

DRAFTED BY: POL:WHHallman:eg	DRAFTING DATE 1/26/78	TEL. EXT. 278	CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: DCM:MChaplin
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CLEARANCES:

AMB:RCastro ~~XXXXXXXX~~ (in draft)

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2. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR -- WHO DURING A JANUARY 19 CONVERSATION CITED RELUCTANCE TO BECOME INVOLVED LEST TRADE RELATIONS BE DAMAGED -- THERE WAS A GENERAL FEELING THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR SOME KIND OF JOINT ACTION, THE GERMAN, DANISH AND SWEDISH AMBASSADORS WERE ESPECIALLY BULLISH ABOUT THIS IDEA. (COMMENT: A NUMBER OF THE AMBASSADORS WITH WHOM WE TALKED, INCLUDING THE SWEDE AND THE GERMAN, HAVE ALREADY MADE VIGOROUS REPRESENTATIONS ON A BILATERAL BASIS IN BEHALF OF DISAPPEARED OR DETAINED NATIONALS. WHAT HAS GROWN IS WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THE SUBJECT OFF THIS NARROW BASE AND SIGNAL TO THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT DISAPPROVAL ON GENERAL HUMANITARIAN AND ETHICAL GROUNDS.)
3. AMBASSADOR PLANS TO RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH IRISH AMBASSADOR DURING CALL SCHEDULED JANUARY 31. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR IS AWAY ON VACATION UNTIL FEBRUARY, BUT WE BELIEVE IT USEFUL TO TAKE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH HIM. OCCASION HAS NOT COME UP FOR DISCUSSING HUMAN RIGHTS DEMARCHE WITH BRITISH CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, BUT WE THINK THERE IS RECEPTIVITY FOR THIS IDEA AT U.K. EMBASSY.
4. EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS (ALL OF THE NINE HAVE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION HERE EXCEPT FOR LUXEMBOURG) MET JANUARY 25 AND 26 IN A "DRAFTING SESSION" PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY'S POLITICAL COMMITTEE GIVEN JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS BY MEANS OF THE BELGIAN EMBASSY -- THE

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BELGIANS BEING OF COURSE EC CHAIRMAN UNTIL THE FIRST OF THE YEAR. SESSIONS NOW ARE UNDER LEADERSHIP OF THE DANISH AMBASSADOR IN HIS ROLE AS COMMUNITY CHAIRMAN FOR THIS SIX MONTHS PERIOD. ACCORDING TO COLLEAGUES AT THE DANISH EMBASSY THE WORK IS MOVING SLOWLY -- SO SLOWLY THAT A FINAL PRODUCT IS NOT EXPECTED "FOR WEEKS." THAT PRODUCT WILL THEN HAVE TO BE TRANSMITTED TO THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE -- THROUGH THE DANES THIS TIME -- FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION IN COMMUNITY CAPITALS.

5. IT IS HARD TO KNOW JUST NOW -- APPARENTLY EVEN FOR WORKING SESSION PARTICIPANTS THEMSELVES -- JUST WHAT KIND OF A DRAFT WILL EMERGE. OUR BEST INFORMATION IS THAT EACH PARTICIPANT IS TAKING WITHIN THE COMMITTEE MORE OR LESS THE VIEW EXPRESSED IN INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS WITH AMBASSADOR. SURPRISINGLY, FRENCH HAVE NOT, REPORTEDLY, STAKED OUT A "FORWARD POSITION" IN THESE DELIBERATIONS, DESPITE THEIR PROBLEMS WITH THE MISSING FRENCH NUNS AND THE TOUGH BILATERAL LINE THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOLD AMBASSADOR HE WAS TAKING WITH GOA. CONSENSUS OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS IS THAT "SOMETHING" NEEDS TO BE DONE ON A MULTILATERAL BASIS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF COMMUNITY'S HAVING MADE MONTEVIDEO DEMARCHE JUST BEFORE CHRISTMAS (MONTEVIDEO 5816 AND 5811, BOTH 1977). AT THE SAME TIME IT IS FELT THAT MONTEVIDEO DEMARCHE WAS INEFFECTIVE, AND SHOULD NOT SERVE AS MODEL FOR WHAT IS TO BE DONE IN BUENOS AIRES. IN ADDITION TO CONTENT OF DEMARCHE TO BE MADE HERE, ITS METHOD OF

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PRESENTATION IS CURRENTLY BEING DEBATED,

6. INTERESTING TO US HAS BEEN EVIDENCE THAT DISMAY ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IS INCREASINGLY FELT BY DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS HERE. AMBASSADOR'S PERUVIAN COLLEAGUE TOLD HIM THAT HIS CONCERN CAME TO A HEAD WHEN THE NIECE OF A PERUVIAN MILITARY ATTACHE AND TWO COMPANIONS WERE ARRESTED AND ROUGHED UP BY SECURITY FORCE MEMBERS. THE SWISS AMBASSADOR HAS ALSO MENTIONED TO US HIS CONCERN OVER RECENT HUMAN RIGHTS EVENTS,

Raúl Castro
CASTRO

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